



MASCOPIK LAKE

TYNGSBORO AND DRACUT

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

AREA = 209 ACRES



NOT FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES

LAKE MASCOPIE (Tyngsboro / Dracut)

General Information:

This large, fertile, 209-acre lake is transparent to ten feet. Emergent aquatic vegetation is relatively scarce given the transparency and fertility of the water, although there are some heavy patches in the northeast and southwest coves. The waterfront is heavily developed, with the exception of the southwestern shore, which falls within the Dracut State Forest. The lake sustains very heavy recreational usage — swimming, boating, sailing and water-skiing — during the summer months. Bass tournaments are scheduled fairly frequently on weekends.

Access is provided by a paved ramp owned by the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife and located on the extreme eastern side of the lake (head toward the lake from almost any street off Willowdale Road and you can't miss it). The parking lot is small and can only accommodate seven or eight vehicles. Plan on arriving very early on summer weekends or you'll be out of luck.

Fish Populations:

The last detailed survey of this pond was conducted in 1978. Eight species were recorded at that time: largemouth bass, chain pickerel, yellow perch, white perch, bluegill, pumpkinseed, yellow bullhead and American eel. Black crappie, golden shiner and brown bullhead are also known to be present. Most of the biomass appeared to be tied up in small sunfish and yellow bullheads. Tiger muskies were stocked here in September 1993, and future stockings to establish and maintain this fishery are planned.

Fishing:

This is not an easy lake to fish during the warmer months due to the heavy recreational usage; hence the majority of gamefish are taken through the ice during the winter. Further, fishing has not been all that good due to the high numbers of small panfish. However, angling opportunities may be improving: recent survey data indicate there are now some good numbers of large bass present. The recent addition of tiger muskies to the lake adds a new dimension to fishery, and in the years ahead should provide some exceptional trophies, particularly during the ice-fishing season.

March 1993